

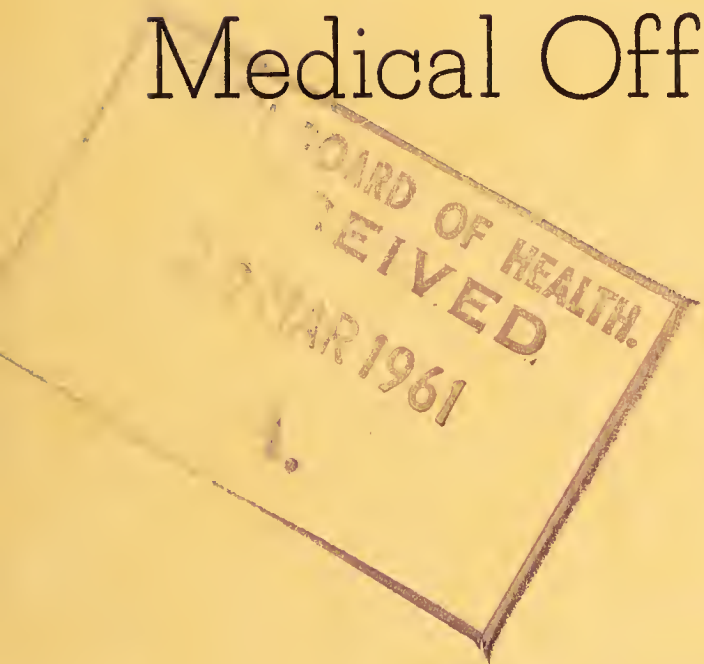
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MOUNTAIN ASH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT



of the
Medical Officer of Health



1959


MOUNTAIN ASH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR ENDED
THIRTY FIRST DECEMBER
ONE THOUSAND NINE
HUNDRED & FIFTY NINE

BY

J. LL. WILLIAMS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (LOND.)



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PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

DAY OF MEETING :
Second TUESDAY IN EACH month

Chairman :
Councillor W. I. JONES

Members :

Councillor Miss M. GEORGE	Councillor L. CLARKE
Councillor R. V. NELMS	Councillor Mrs. M. LEWIS
Councillor E. A. BENNETT	Councillor A. MORGAN
Councillor E. JENKINS	Councillor R. G. OWEN
Councillor S. S. PARFITT	Councillor H. WARD
Councillor W. J. WILLIAMS	Councillor A. S. J. HILLIER
Councillor A. H. MAGGS, J.P.	Councillor E. OATEN
Councillor W. J. NORTHAM	Councillor G. F. DAVIES
Councillor W. MORGAN	

Staff of Public Health Department

<i>Medical Officer of Health.....</i>	J. LL. WILLIAMS, M.R.C.S., (<i>part time</i>) L.R.C.P., D.P.H.(LOND.)
<i>Senior Public Health.....</i>	G. M. JAMES, C.S.I.B., <i>Inspector</i> Cert. Meat and Other Foods R.S.I., M.S.I.A.
<i>Student Public Health.....</i>	R. G. JONES <i>Inspector</i> (Comm. May 1959)
<i>Shops and General Purposes...</i>	H. R. GIBSON <i>Inspector</i> (Comm. November 1959)
<i>Clerk.....</i>	H. J. THOMAS

MOUNTAIN ASH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Medical Officer of Health's
Annual Report

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
OXFORD STREET,

Tel. : Mountain Ash 3241

MOUNTAIN ASH

January, 1961

*To the Chairman and Members of the Mountain Ash
Urban District Council*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my Annual Report on the Public Health and Sanitary conditions of the District, and the work carried out by your Officers of the Public Health Department, together with the vital and other statistics for the year 1959.

I would like to record my thanks to the Members of the Council for the interest they have shown in the Department, to the Clerk of the Council and Chief Officers for their ready co-operation and to Mr. G. M. James, Senior Public Health Inspector and the staff of the Public Health Department for their assistance to me during a year made particularly difficult by shortage of staff.

Yours sincerely,

J. LL. WILLIAMS,

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of District.....	10,504
Population	30,540
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1959).....	8,588
Rateable Value.....	£180,058
Sum represented by a Penny Rate.....	£673

EXTRACT FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

Live Births.....	520
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 Population.....	17.03
Still Births.....	17
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births.....	31.98
Total Live and Stillbirths.....	537
Infant Deaths.....	14
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births—Total.....	26.92
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births—Legitimate..	23.48
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births—Illegitimate..	222.2
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births (1st four Weeks)	26.92
Illegitimate Live Births per cent. of Total Live Births.....	1.73%
Maternal Deaths (including abortion).....	1
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live and Stillbirths....	1.86
Early Neo-Natal Mortality (Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total Live births).....	23.08
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Still births & deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total Live and Stillbirths.....	54

BIRTHS

The number of births registered in the district during the year was 520. The number of males was 265 and females 255. This gives a birth-rate of 17.03 per 1,000 inhabitants on a population of 30,540 (General Registrar).

The Birth-rate is 0.53 higher than the rate for England and Wales, and 0.79 higher than the rate for the Administrative County. It is 0.49 higher than in 1958.

The number of illegitimate children registered was 9 (6 males and 3 females). This is equivalent to an illegitimate rate of 17.31 per 1,000 births registered.

DEATHS

The number of deaths in the district during the year was 357. This gives a Death-rate of 11.69 per 1,000 upon an estimated population of 30,540.

INFANT MORTALITY & NEO-NATAL MORTALITY, 1959

SOURCE	INFANT MORTALITY		NEO-NATAL MORTALITY	
	Deaths under one Year	Rate per 1,000 live births	Deaths under four weeks	Rate per 1,000 live births
England & Wales ...	16,471	22.0		
Glamorgan County...	341	28.13	255	21.04
Urban Districts.....	251	28.78	188	21.56
Rural Districts	90	26.46	67	19.69
Mountain Ash	14	26.92	14	26.92
Some larger Glamorgan Districts :—				
Aberdare	15	27.08	11	19.86
Barry	17	21.20	13	16.21
Bridgend	4	14.44	3	10.83
Caerphilly	24	37.68	17	26.69
Maesteg	13	37.25	9	25.79
Neath Borough	13	27.43	8	16.88
Neath Rural.....	15	24.75	9	14.85
Pontypridd	16	27.12	12	20.34
Port Talbot	24	25.70	19	20.34
Rhondda Borough...	53	33.67	38	24.14

STILL BIRTHS

The number of Still-Births registered was 17, of which 9 were males and 8 females. The still-birthrate per 1,000 registered live and stillbirths being 31.98.

INFANT MORTALITY

The following table shows the Infantile Mortality—Deaths under One Year. Rates per 1,000 Births since 1909

Year	England and Wales	Mountain Ash	Year	England and Wales	Mountain Ash
1909	109	119	1936	59	68.1
1910	105	123.4	1937	58	84.8
1911	130	117.1	1938	53	45.7
1912	95	114.8	1939	50	76.9
1913	108	149.2	1940	55	53.0
1914	105	134.1	1941	59	65.0
1915	110	131.2	1942	49	45.7
1916	91	90.4	1943	49	46.4
1917	96	97.6	1944	46	51.9
1918	97	97.4	1945	46	57.0
1919	89	112.6	1946	43	50.0
1920	80	90.2	1947	41	73.0
1921	83	83.2	1948	34	46.0
1922	77	85.3	1949	32	46.0
1923	69	64.2	1950I.M.	29.8	48.64
1924	75	74.0	N.N.M.		29.18
1925	75	88.7	1951I.M.	29.6	41.74
1926	70	69.7	N.N.M.	18.8	23.59
1927	69	89.5	1952I.M.	27.6	50.88
1928	65	70.9	N.N.M.	18.9	24.56
1929	74	70.9	1953I.M.	26.8	24.76
1930	60	84.3	N.N.M.	17.7	17.14
1931	66	72.6	1954I.M.	25.5	21.23
1932	65	88.3	N.N.M.	17.7	10.62
1933	64	69.0	1955I.M.	24.9	36.56
1934	59	67.4	N.N.M.	17.3	27.96
1935	57	87.0	1956I.M.	23.8	25.97
			N.N.M.	—	17.32
			1957I.M.	23.0	44.23
			N.N.M.	16.5	28.85
			1958I.M.	22.5	47.52
			N.N.M.	—	31.68
			1959I.M.	22.0	26.92
			N.N.M.	—	26.92

(I.M.—Infant Mortality, No. of deaths under 1 year)

(N.N.M.—Neo-Natal Mortality, Mo. of deaths under 4 weeks)

The following table gives the number of still-births per 1,000 live and stillbirths for the last ten years :—

1950.....	35.6	1955 .	29.2
1951.....	29.9	1956.....	29.4
1952.....	27.3	1957.....	33.4
1953.....	15.0	1958.....	28.8
1954.....	46.5	1959.....	31.1

INFANT MORTALITY.—Net Deaths from stated causes at various ages under 1 year of age.

[illegible]

CAUSES OF DEATH

	Male	Female	Total
All causes.....	201	156	357
Tuberculosis—Respiratory	7	2	9
Other Forms.....	—	—	—
Syphylitic Disease.....	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
hooping Cough.....	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections.....	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis.....	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases.....	1	—	1
Malignant neoplasm—Stomach	5	8	13
lung-bronchus	10	2	12
breast	—	4	4
uterus	—	4	4
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms.....	20	11	31
Leukaemia-aleukaemia	—	—	—
Diabetes	—	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system.....	15	24	39
Coronary disease—angina	37	21	58
Hypertension with heart disease.....	6	6	12
Other heart disease	10	27	37
Other circulatory diseases.....	2	6	8
Influenza	3	1	4
Pneumonia	2	3	5
Bronchitis	25	5	30
Other diseases of respiratory system.....	13	2	15
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.....	2	1	3
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.....	—	—	—
Nephritis and hephrosis.....	—	—	—
Hyperplasia of prostate.....	1	—	1
Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion.....	—	1	1
Congenital malformations.....	1	2	3
Other defined and ill-defined diseases.....	32	20	52
Motor Vehicle Accidents.....	1	—	1
All other accidents.....	7	4	11
Suicide	1	1	2
Homicide and operations of war.....	—	—	—

CANCER TABLE

The following table shows the number of deaths from cancer in the area during the past five years:

	1959			1958			1957			1956			1955		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
Stomach	5	8	13	10	8	18	14	4	18	13	8	21	4	6	10
Lung Bronchus	10	2	12	7	—	7	7	1	8	9	1	10	12	—	12
Breast	—	4	4	—	2	2	—	6	6	—	2	2	—	2	2
Uterus	—	4	4	—	5	5	—	1	1	—	2	2	—	4	4
Other	20	11	31	15	9	24	17	12	29	13	22	35	17	13	30
Totals	35	29	64	32	24	56	38	24	62	35	35	70	33	25	58

Notifiable Diseases

The following tables shew the age and ward distribution of the cases of infectious diseases notified during the year under review :—

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

<i>Diseases.</i>	<i>Total Cases Notified</i>	<i>Number of Cases recorded on Form 118e (cor- rected figures)</i>	<i>Cases admitted to Hospital</i>	<i>Total Deaths</i>
Scarlet Fever	41	41	—	—
Pneumonia	34	34	7	5
Measles	119	119	1	—
Meningococcal Infection ..	1	1	1	—
Whooping Cough	3	3	—	—
Dysentery	5	5	2	—
Erysipelas	6	6	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	3	3	—
Food Poisoning ..	2	2	2	—
Tuberculosis :—				
(a) Pulmonary { Males ...	18	17	12	7
{ Females ...	9	9	3	2
{ Total ...	27	26	15	9
(b) Non- { Males ...	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary { Females ...	3	3	—	—
{ Total ...	3	3	—	—

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1959. Number of Cases notified in each Ward.

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Duffryn</i>	<i>Dar-ran-las</i>	<i>Miskin</i>	<i>Penrhiw-ceiber</i>	<i>Aber-cynon</i>	<i>Ynysy-bwl</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>No. of Cases removed to Hospital.</i>
Scarlet Fever ...	9	5	9	14	4	—	41	—
Pneumonia ...	4	11	8	11	—	—	34	7
Measles ...	4	5	21	62	7	20	119	1
Meningococcal Infection ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1
Whooping Cough ...	1	1	1	—	—	—	3	—
Dysentery ...	—	1	1	3	—	—	5	2
Erysipelas ...	1	2	3	—	—	—	6	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	2	1	3	3
Food Poisoning ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
TOTAL ...	21	25	44	90	13	21	214	15

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1959. Analysis of the Total Cases in Age Groups.

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Under 1 year</i>	<i>1 to 2 years</i>	<i>2 to 3 years</i>	<i>3 to 4 years</i>	<i>4 to 5 years</i>	<i>5 to 10 years</i>	<i>10 to 15 years</i>	<i>15 to 20 years</i>	<i>20 to 35 years</i>	<i>35 to 45 years</i>	<i>45 to 65 years</i>	<i>65 yrs. & over</i>	<i>Total</i>
Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	1	8	9	13	6	3	1	—	—	—	41
Pneumonia ...	1	1	2	1	1	—	—	—	6	3	7	12	34
Measles ...	7	19	22	15	26	29	1	—	—	—	—	—	119
Meningococcal Inf.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Whooping Cough	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Dysentery	1	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	2	6
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	3
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
TOTAL ...	10	23	27	24	37	45	7	4	9	3	11	14	214

Cases Admitted, Treated and Discharged from various Sanatoria and Hospitals during 1959

Name of Institution	W A R D S													
	MALES							FEMALES.						
	Duffryn	Darranlas	Miskin	Penrhiw- ceiber	Aber- cynon	Ynysybwł	Total	Duffryn	Darranlas	Miskin	Penrhiw- ceiber	Aber- cynon	Ynysybwł	Total
Tonteg Isolation Hospital	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Glan Ely Hospital	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
South Wales Sanatorium, Talgarth ..	—	—	1	3	3	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mardy Isolation Hospital	2	1	1	6	3	—	13	1	1	1	3	2	—	8
Sully Hospital	1	1	1	2	—	—	5	1	—	1	1	3	—	6
TOTAL	3	2	3	11	7	1	27	2	1	2	4	5	1	15

Pulmonary and other Cases of Tuberculosis Notified by Medical Practitioners during 1959

Ages		W A R D S														TUBERCULOSIS MORTALITY	
		MALES							FEMALES								
		Duffryn	Darranlas	Miskin	Penrhiw- ceiber	Aber- cynon	Ynysybwl	Total	Duffryn	Darranlas	Miskin	Penrhiw- ceiber	Aber- cynon	Ynysybwl	Total	Males	Females
PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS	Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	1 to 5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	5 to 10 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	10 to 15 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	15 to 20 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	20 to 25 years	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	
	25 to 35 years	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	
	35 to 45 years	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	
	45 to 55 years	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	
	55 to 65 years	1	1	—	2	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	—	
65 years and over	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	3	1	
TOTAL		2	1	3	9	3	—	18	—	1	3	4	1	—	9	7	2
OTHER FORMS OF TUBERCULOSIS	Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	1 to 5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	5 to 10 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	10 to 15 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	15 to 20 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	20 to 25 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	25 to 35 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	35 to 45 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	45 to 55 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	55 to 65 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
65 years and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
TOTAL		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	3	—	—	

TUBERCULOSIS

The Pulmonary Tuberculosis Death-rate per 1,000 population for the year was 0.294. This is 0.196 higher than in 1958.

As in the previous year, there were no deaths from Other Forms of Tuberculosis.

The following table shows the incidence of Tuberculosis in the district during the past ten years :—

Year	CASES NOTIFIED		DEATHS	
	Pulmonary	Other Forms	Pulmonary	Other Forms
1950	44	7	18	6
1951.....	54	6	14	1
1952 .	59	6	16	—
1953 ...	73	5	15	1
1954 ...	52	4	9	—
1955 .	35	4	10	1
1956 ...	28	4	5	—
1957 ...	28	2	10	—
1958 ...	23	1	3	—
1959 ...	27	3	9	—

Laboratory Work

CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS

Arrangements for the chemical and bacteriological examination of specimens from this area are the same as in previous years.

With the exception of Sputum Outfits (which are obtained from the Chest Physician at the Chest Clinic) all other outfits for the collection and transmission of specimens can be obtained from the Public Health Department, Oxford Street, Mountain Ash. Medical Practitioners within the area are aware of this fact.

The following table shows the nature and number of specimens sent for examinations and also the results :—

DISEASE SUSPECTED	Number of Specimens	Positive	Results	
				Negative
Diphtheria :—				
Throat	9	—	9
Dysentery and Enteric :—				
Faeces	55	—	55
Urine	18	—	18
Food Poisoning :—				
Faeces	18	14	4

WATER

The Mountain Ash Urban District Council has its own water undertaking, and its works and mains supplies are under the control of the Council's Engineer and Surveyor. There are three main sources of supply, two of which are in the Council's own Area and the third at Penderyn in Brecknockshire. There are three impounding and storage resevoirs ; at Penderyn, Clydach and Perthcelyn, and five service resevoirs at Darranlas, Buarth-y-Capel, Gilfach Rhyd, Cefnpennar, Abercynon and Penrhiwceiber High Service.

The respective capacities of the resevoirs are :—

Penderyn	132,000,000	gallons
Clydach	11,300,000	gallons
Darranlas	2,200,000	gallons
Perthcelyn	31,572,000	gallons
Buarth-y-Capel	500,000	gallons
Abercynon No. 2 & 3.....	400,000	gallons
Penrhiwceiber High Service.....	500,000	gallons
Gilfach Rhyd No. 1.....	100,000	gallons
Cefnpennar	22,700	gallons

The sources of all supplies are upland surface and the water tends to be soft in character. Only one supply, that from Darranlas, is filtered, and this by slow sand filtration. All supplies are chlorinated, and treated with chalk.

During the year, owing to damage from subsidence due to to mining operations, the Penrhiwceiber High Service Resevoir was reconditioned at the expense of the National Coal Board. Although this was re-instated primarily for emergency measures it has been brought into service for distribution of current supplies, and thereby keeping it in good and serviceable condition.

There continued to be complaints of turbidity in the water supplied to the Lock Street area of Abercynon, resulting from the scraping and cleansing of the mains to improve the pressures. A slight improvement was effected as a result of minor works but the position was far from satisfactory and it was considered that the only solution was the renewal of the old mains. It was agreed as Council policy that when old mains became badly incrustated the mains would be changed and in the Glancynon area of Abercynon, which includes Lock Street, new mains have been laid.

It became the policy of the Council after consideration of joint reports of the Engineer and the Medical Officer of Health that a programme of the provision of modern treatment plant for all supplies be carried forward. Preliminary work on the filtration scheme for the Clydach source of supply has been held in abeyance because of the possible effects of regrouping of water undertakings.

SOURCE OF SUPPLY	RESULTS OF BACTERIOLOGICAL TESTS				RESULTS OF CHEMICAL TESTS			
	Number Samples	Satis- factory	Unsat- isf'tory	% Satis.	No. of Samples	Satis- factory	Unsat- isf'tory	% Satisf'y
Penderyn Reservoir .. Raw .. Treated ..	24 65	— 39	— 26	— 60%	24 65	— 22	— 43	— 33.8%
Perthcelyn Reservoir .. Raw .. Treated ..	17 39	— 34	— 5	— 87.2%	17 39	— 25	— 14	— 64.1%
Darranlas Reservoir .. Raw .. Treated ..	18 23	— 23	— 0	— 100%	18 23	— 23	— 0	— 100%
Clydach Reservoir.....Raw .. Treated ..	22 23	— 18	— 5	— 78.3%	22 24	— 19	— 5	— 79.2%

SOURCE	RESULTS OF BACTERIOLOGICAL TESTS				RESULTS OF CHEMICAL TESTS			
	Number Samples	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	% Satis.	Number Samples	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	% Satis.
Gwernifor Swimming Pool	7	5	2	71.43%	7	7	—	100%
Penrhiwceiber Paddling Pool	2	2	—	100%	2	2	—	100%
Abercynon Paddling Pool	1	1	—	100%	1	1	—	100%

SWIMMING POOLS AND PADDLING POOLS

Within the Urban Area there is one Open Air Swimming Pool at Gwernifor Grounds, Mountain Ash, and two Paddling Pools, one at the Welfare Grounds, Abercynon and one at Lee Gardens, Penrhiwceiber. All these are maintained by the Council, and are all supplied with mains water.

The Gwernifor Swimming Pool has a water area of 3,600 sq. ft. and a capacity of 150,000 gallons. Whilst in use there is a continuous flow of water through a pressure filtration plant, with coagulation and chlorination. The rate of change of water in the baths is once in every six hours.

The Paddling Pools also have a continuous flow through a Bell Bros. Purification Plant. The water undergoes chlorination by gaseous chlorine injection, and alum and soda ash treatment for coagulation and precipitation. The capacities of the Pools are as under :—

Abercynon Pool.....	60,000 gallons
Penrhiwceiber Pool.....	40,000 gallons

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Included, once again, in this Report are tables showing the results of samples analysed during the year from the various atmospheric pollution measuring stations maintained in Aberdare and Mountain Ash Districts. As in previous years these results continued to be submitted, month by month, to the Department of Scientific Research and the N.C.B., as well as to the two Councils concerned.

If comparisons are now desired to be made, reference should be made to previous Annual Reports, the tables in which contained corresponding figures for the years 1956-57-58. But if this course is attempted then regard should be paid to the warning given in earlier years that great caution should be exercised in interpreting the results.

Finally, as a rough, and by no means scientific, guide, an approximate standard of atmospheric pollution to be expected in the varying conditions to be found in the country, a clean town and a “black area” of heavy density of population and industry, is given below, with the reiterated

Table I. DEPOSITED MATTER.

MOUNTAIN ASH						ABERDARE					
Year 1959	TOTAL SOLIDS DEPOSITED (Tons per Square Mile) AT					Year 1959	TOTAL SOLIDS DEPOSITED (Tons per Square Mile) AT				
Month	Hibernian Club	Trawscoed Aberdare Road	M'tain Ash Grammar School	4 Middle Duffryn	Total of all Stations	Month	Aberdare Co-op (Central)	Aman School	Parry's Bakery Abercwmboi	Cwmbach (Duffryn Row)	Total of all Stations
JANUARY ..	39.09	41.02	33.16	78.27	191.54	JANUARY ..	27.46	33.53	30.18	32.64	123.81
FEBRUARY ..	15.44	13.26	10.70	41.18	80.58	FEBRUARY ..	14.97	13.39	12.10	9.50	49.96
MARCH	22.81	24.53	21.31	95.90	164.55	MARCH	18.63	15.88	22.64	30.28	87.43
APRIL	23.42	28.32	26.58	95.14	173.46	APRIL	16.24	15.31	23.51	29.50	84.56
MAY.....	20.47	30.57	24.40	51.35	126.79	MAY.....	12.68	11.81	29.36	20.31	74.16
JUNE	19.19	33.62	*12.12	92.39	157.32	JUNE	9.87	19.12	16.10	20.48	65.57
JULY	26.43	44.10	*13.02	166.89	250.44	JULY	12.38	12.35	24.46	19.46	68.65
AUGUST	26.70	54.70	*11.14	99.20	191.74	AUGUST.....	9.97	10.54	23.18	30.48	74.17
SEPTEMBER..	23.69	29.06	*13.62	58.43	124.80	SEPTEMBER..	6.71	8.62	23.15	14.60	53.08
OCTOBER	31.02	36.88	*21.00	179.85	268.75	OCTOBER	19.77	35.37	22.94	28.66	106.74
NOVEMBER ..	38.92	39.56	*24.87	164.81	268.16	NOVEMBER ..	26.37	27.22	27.67	41.22	122.48
DECEMBER ..	49.56	51.35	*35.47	230.09	366.47	DECEMBER ..	26.35	32.64	32.88	45.68	137.55

NOTE : The headings marked * are those taken from the Measuring Station at the Workmen's Hall, Ynysybwl

Table 2. ESTIMATION OF SULPHUR.

MOUNTAIN ASH					ABERDARE				
Year 1959	Mg. of SO ₃ /day collected by 100 sq. cm. of "Batch A" PbO ₂ (Louvered Cover) at				Year 1959	Mg. of SO ₃ /day collected by 100 sq. cm. of "Batch A" PbO ₂ (Louvered Cover) at			
Month	Hibernian Club	Trawscoed Aberdare Road	Mountain Ash Grammar School	4 Middle Duffryn	Month	Aberdare Co-op (Central)	Aman School	Parry's Bakery Abercwmboi	Cwmbach (Duffryn Row)
JANUARY	2.67	1.18	1.13	0.89	JANUARY	1.76	1.09	1.44	1.11
FEBRUARY	2.97	1.63	2.16	1.22	FEBRUARY ...	2.12	1.60	1.65	1.37
MARCH	1.98	0.86	0.79	0.93	MARCH	1.23	0.95	1.02	0.87
APRIL	1.50	0.76	0.93	1.25	APRIL	1.25	0.64	1.08	0.94
MAY.....	1.15	0.68	0.65	0.71	MAY.....	0.85	0.92	0.95	0.57
JUNE	0.84	0.45	*0.35	0.90	JUNE	0.55	0.45	0.76	0.41
JULY	0.80	0.38	*0.35	0.90	JULY	0.67	0.41	0.75	0.40
AUGUST.....	0.81	0.39	*0.40	0.57	AUGUST.....	0.71	0.46	0.62	0.25
SEPTEMBER....	1.29	0.52	*0.37	0.43	SEPTEMBER....	0.79	0.89	0.88	0.39
OCTOBER	1.72	0.62	*0.90	0.95	OCTOBER	1.19	0.88	1.26	0.69
NOVEMBER	2.24	1.13	*0.76	1.13	NOVEMBER	1.46	1.12	1.31	0.93
DECEMBER	2.31	0.98	*1.03	1.46	DECEMBER.....	1.30	0.91	1.33	1.04

NOTE : The readings marked * are those taken from the Measuring Station at the Workmen's Hall, Ynysybwl

warning that comparison of this standard with the figures listed in the tables should be regarded as productive of interest only and not of scientific conclusion.

It is strikingly obvious that the highest figures are still obtained from the Middle Duffryn Measuring Station which reflects the degree of pollution of the atmosphere in the neighbourhood of the Phurnacite Plant which lies just within the Urban Area of Aberdare. While improvements have taken place at certain collieries in the Mountain Ash Area as a result of electrification of colliery plant, there is little doubt that the Phurnacite Plant remains the greatest single source of pollution in the Cynon Valley.

TOTAL SOLIDS

- (a) CLEAN.....less than 12.5 tons per sq. mile.
- (b) FAIRLY CLEAN.....12.5—37.5 tons per sq. mile
- (c) DIRTY.....37.5—62.5 tons per sq. mile
- (d) VERY DIRTY.....More than 62.5 tons per sq. mile.

CLEAN RURAL ATMOSPHERE -

0.25 mg. of SO_3 per 100 sq. cm. per day

HEAVILY POLLUTED INDUSTRIAL ATMOSPHERE

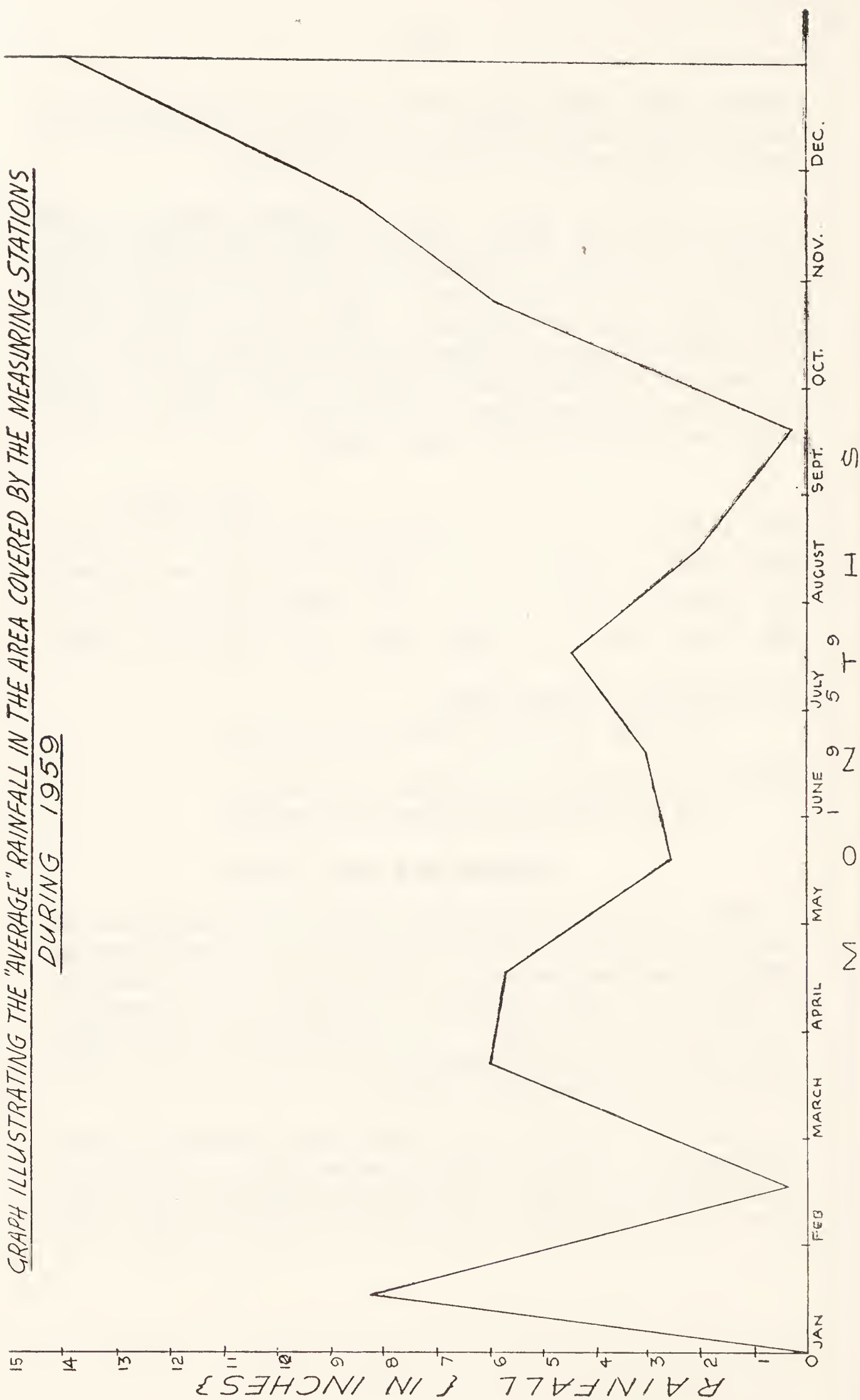
5.0 mg. of SO_3 per 100 sq. cm. per day.

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

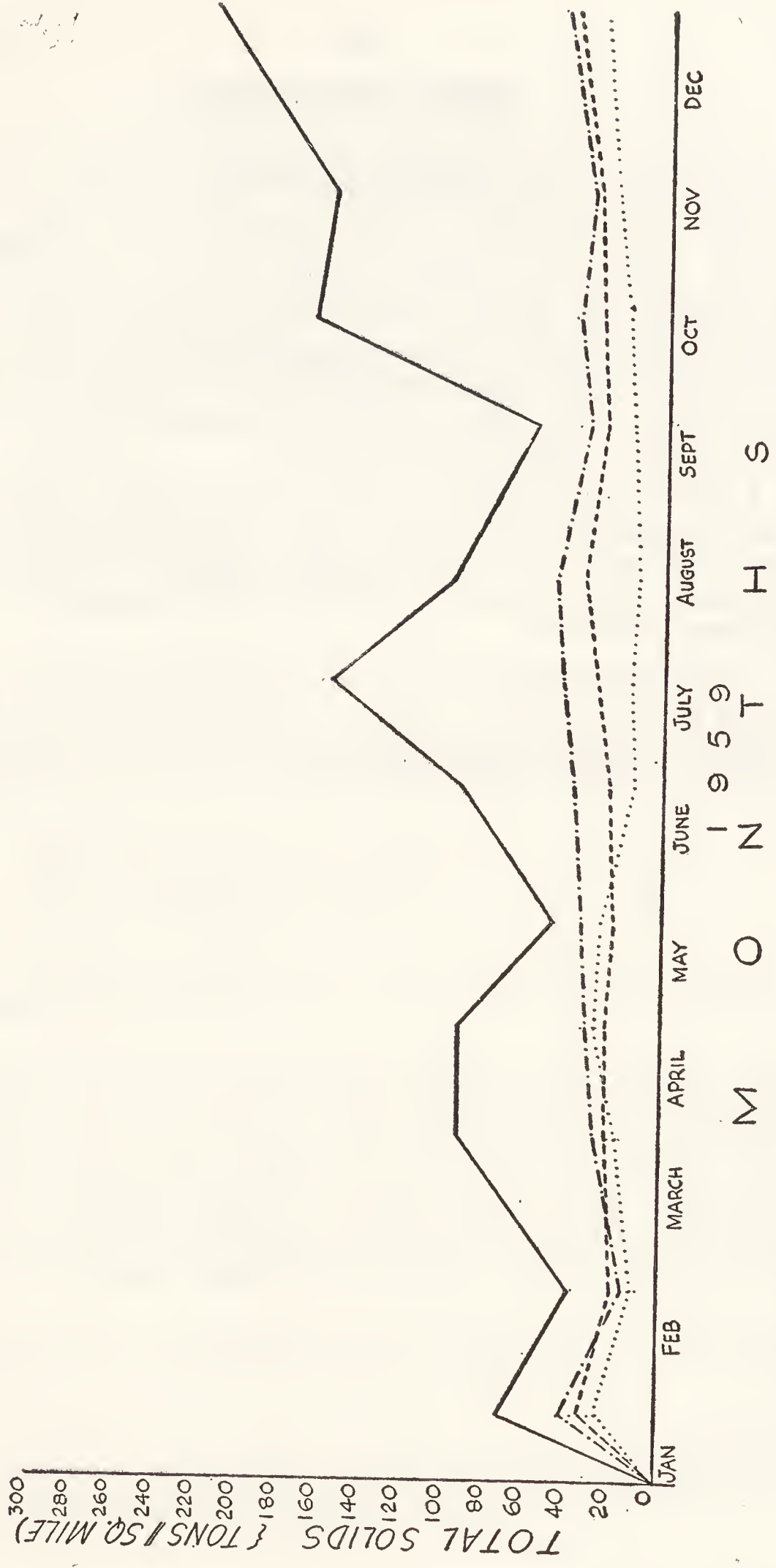
Those who have read the 1958 Report may recall that in the last paragraph under this heading, the view formed at Officer level was that, as the result of the over-all situation in this area, there was little or nothing to be gained by starting to create smoke control areas, and it was further stated that formal consideration of this matter by the Council had not at that time taken place.

It can now be said that the Council have come to the same conclusion viz., that in view of the particular circumstances obtaining in the district, no material advantage would accrue from embarking upon a programme of smoke control areas.

GRAPH ILLUSTRATING THE "AVERAGE" RAINFALL IN THE AREA COVERED BY THE MEASURING STATIONS
DURING 1959



GRAPH ILLUSTRATING TOTAL SOLIDS DEPOSITED DURING 1959.



No. 1. HIBERNIAN CLUB -----
No. 2. TRAWSCOED, ABERDARE RD. - - - - -

No. 3. GRAMMAR SCHOOL (UNTIL MAY) & WORKMENS HALL, YNYSBWL
No. 4. MIDDLE DUFFRYN -----

RIVER POLLUTION

Perhaps the best indication of the improvement in recent years of the condition of the River Cynon is that it is now capable of maintaining fish life throughout the whole of its course. This has been achieved as a result of works instigated by the neighbouring Authority of Aberdare as well as by this Authority, and particularly, in respect of the latter, with regard to the effluents from the Deep Duffryn and Penrikyber washeries. Both these washeries, theoretically at least, are on closed circuits, and, if properly operated, should no longer be a source of pollution to the river.

There are unfortunately, however, occasions, though far less frequent than formerly, when the river becomes discoloured, and it is felt that constant vigilance will be required for some time to come to reduce these occasions to the absolute minimum.

The general appearance of the River Cynon six days out of seven is, from a clarity point of view, very satisfactory, and even on its bad days compares more than favourably with the River Taff at their confluence.

Food Hygiene

FOOD HYGIENE

(1) Number of Food Premises in the area :—

Grocery and Provision Dealers.....	64
General Dealers.....	103
Greengrocers and Fruiterers.....	23
Fishmongers	1
Refreshments Dealers and Confectioners.....	14
Butchers	29
Fish Fryers.....	18
Confectionery only.....	3
Bakeries	4
Licensed Premises.....	33
Mineral Water Manufacturers.....	1
Wholesale Grocers.....	1
Canteens : Colliery	5
Schools	6
Factory	6

(2) Number of Premises registered under Section 16, Food and Drugs Act, 1955 :—

Manufacture and Sale of Ice Cream.....	7
Sale of Ice Cream.....	92
Fried Fish and Chipped Potatoes.....	18
Butchers' Smalls.....	15

11 Dairies are registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949

- (3) Visits and inspections of registered food premises were made during the year. Whilst the standard of handling preparing, displaying and serving of food is generally good, the human element still remains. The public could be of great assistance in bringing about a further improvement by being more critical of slipshod, slovenly or unhygienic methods of handling and serving food.
- (4) Disposal of Condemned Food—burial in the Council's Refuse Tip. All tins are pierced before burial.
- (5) No special examination of food other than that which occurred in the normal routine work and is included in the Public Health Inspector's Report.

(6) The Ice Cream Regulations, 1947-52

Premises where Ice Cream is manufactured and sold have been inspected. All vehicles used in the retail sale of Ice Cream continue to maintain the high standard approved by the Council.

SHOPS ACT, 1950

A shops and General Purposes Inspector was appointed by the Council to be attached to the Public Health Department. He commenced his duties in November, 1959.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

I give below a statement showing the number of samples taken by the County Sampling Officers in the Mountain Ash Urban Area during the year ended 31st December, 1959 :—

SAMPLE	No. taken	SAMPLE	No. taken
Almonds (ground).....	5	Milk	10
Apples	1	Mincemeat	5
Aspirins	1	Mussels	1
Baking Powder.....	3	Olive Oil.....	2
Bicarbonate of Soda.....	4	Orange & Lemon Curd.....	1
Butter	5	Parsley & Sage (dried).....	1
Cake Sponge Mix etc.....	12	Pearl Barley.....	1
Cereals.....	1	Peas (dried).....	1
Cheese Spread.....	1	Peel (mixed).....	3
Coffee & Chicory.....	3	Pepper	1
Colouring	4	Rice	5
Condensed Milk.....	2	Salad Cream.....	4
Cornflour	3	Sauces	4
Cream	6	Semolina	2
Curry Powder.....	1	Shredded Beef Suet.....	2
Dehydrated Veg.....	1	Soft Drinks.....	12
Desiccated Coconut.....	1	Soup (canned).....	4
Dessert Powder.....	1	Spices	1
Evaporated Milk.....	2	Sugar	5
Fish)canned(.....	1	Surgical Spirit.....	1
Fish Paste.....	2	Sweets	3
Flour	6	Table Jelly.....	2
Fruit (canned).....	4	Tea	2
Fruit (dried).....	9	Tonic Waters.....	4
Glace Cherries.....	2	Vegetables (canned).....	6
Glucose	2	Vinegar	6
Gravy Browning	3	Vitamin Tabs. etc.....	7
Ice Cream.....	6		
Jam	5		
Lard	2		
Lemon Juice.....	2		
Margarine	3		
Meat Pies	2		
Meat Products (canned)....	4		
		TOTAL	206

I am indebted to Dr. W. E. Thomas, County Medical Officer of Health, for supplying me with the above information.

HOUSING**Housing Act, 1957**

Action was taken during the year in respect of one house which was considered unfit for human habitation and not repairable at a reasonable cost. The house was demolished and the family removed to a Council house.

Rent Act, 1957

Number of Applications for Certificates of Disrepair.....	18
Number of Certificates granted by Council.....	9
Number of Undertakings accepted by Council.....	7
Number of Cancellations of Certificates accepted by Council	2

General Health and Welfare Services of the District

1.—SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE GLAMORGAN COUNTY COUNCIL :—

- (a) Maternity and Child Welfare, Midwifery, Home Nursing, Home Help, School Medical and Health Visiting.

These services are administered by the

DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER

Headquarters : Divisional Health Offices,
New Clinic Buildings,
Rock Grounds, Aberdare.
Tel. No. : Aberdare 2497

For the residents of YNYSYBWL, the services are administered by

DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER

Headquarters : Divisional Health Offices,
Courthouse Street,
Pontypridd.
Tel. No. : Pontypridd 2275-6

- (b) MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES :—

The duly authorised officers for this area are -
Mr. C. EDWARDS,

15 Mill Street,
Tonyrefail.
Tel. No. : Tonyrefail 443

Mr. W. ANSTEE,

10 Heol-y-bryn,
Pontyclun.
Tel. No. : Pontyclun 439

- (c) AMBULANCE SERVICE :—

The Ambulance Station for this area is situated at
HAWTHORNE, PONTYPRIDD
Tel. No. : Pontypridd 2522

(d) WELFARE SERVICE :—

Officers of the Welfare Department are available to offer advice and assistance to those in need of hostel accommodation, the blind and the handicapped.

The local offices for the area are :—

(a) Area Office, Llewellyn Street,
Trecynon, ABERDARE.
Tel. No. : Aberdare 3018

(b) County Offices, Courthouse St.,
PONTYPRIDD.
Tel. No. : Pontypridd 2275-6

(e) CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT :—

The Office of the Children's Department of the County Council is at—

33/36 Adam Street, CARDIFF
Tel. No. : Cardiff 31696 to 31698

(f) REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES :
This area comes under the Pontypridd District, and the Superintendent's Office is at—

Courthouse Street, PONTYPRIDD.
Tel. No. : Pontypridd 3132

The local offices are situated at—

53 Commercial Street,
MOUNTAIN ASH.
Tel. No. : Mountain Ash 2192
10 a.m. to 1 p.m. ; 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

GLANCYNON POST OFFICE, ABERCYNON
Tuesday : 9.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m.

WORKMEN'S HALL, YNYSYBWL
Tuesday and Friday : 11 a.m. to 12 a.m.

(g) PROBATION OFFICER :—

The address of the Principal Probation Officer is at
St. Catherine's Chamber, Mill Street
PONTYPRIDD.

Tel. No. : Pontypridd 2157

The local office is—

Probation Officer Office,
Cardiff Street, ABERDARE.
Tel. No. : Aberdare 2901

2.—HOSPITAL SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE WELSH REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD

Hospital facilities for the area are administered by—

- (a) The Merthyr and Aberdare Hospital Management Committee ;

The office of this Committee is at—
St. Tydfil's Hospital,
MERTHYR TYDFIL.
Tel. No. Merthyr 3401

- (b) The Pontypridd and Rhondda Hospital Management Committee ;

Office at—
Courthouse Street,
PONTYPRIDD.
Tel. No. : Pontypridd 2646

- (c) CHEST CLINICS :—

Melbourne House, Penrhiwceiber Road, Penrhiwceiber. This Clinic is open on TUESDAY & FRIDAY mornings, (10 a.m. to 12 noon) and once monthly for Contact Clinic.

Tel. No. : Mountain Ash 2119

Glen View, Courthouse Street, Pontypridd.
(Open MONDAY to FRIDAY : 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.)

SATURDAY : 9 a.m. to 12 noon

Tel. No. : Pontypridd 2204

3.—SERVICES PROVIDED BY GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS

(a) Ministry of National Insurance :—

Central Office (Wales) is at

Cathays Park, CARDIFF

Local Offices : Duffryn Road, Mountain Ash.

Tel. No. : Mountain Ash 2215

Park Buildings, Pontypridd

Tel. No. : Pontypridd 3081

(b) Pneumoconiosis Medical Panel :—

This office is situated at the East entrance—

Prudential Buildings,

Cathays Park, CARDIFF.

Tel. No. : Cardiff 26161

(c) National Assistance Board :—

Area Offices— Glanynys, Cwmbach Road,
Aberdare.

Tel. No. : Aberdare 2343

The Grange, Tyfica Road,
Pontypridd

Tel. No. : Pontypridd 2295

4.—GENERAL PRACTITIONER SERVICES :—

This service is provided by the Glamorgan Executive
Council of—

47 Park Place, Cardiff.

Tel. No. : Cardiff 26216

(National Health Council)

5.—NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948—BURIAL OF THE DEAD.

Under the provisions of the Act, during the year the
cost of burying one person was accepted by this
authority.

J. LL. WILLIAMS,

Medical Officer of Health.

Summary of Work done by the Public Health Inspector

Number of premises inspected and re-visited..... 1,219

Number of Notices served under Section 93 Public
Health Act, 1936 :—

Informal 314
Statutory 171

General Repairs—

Chimneys and fireplaces..... 73
Roofs 119
Eavesgutters and downpipes..... 65
External Walls..... 28
Windows and doors..... 112
Internal walls, partitions and ceilings..... 59
Floors 31
Internal Staircases..... 7
Cupboards and skirtings..... 14
Sculleries and pantries..... 25
Yard pavements and steps..... 21
Wash houses and coal houses..... 3
Boundary and forecourt walls..... 40
Dirty premises..... 1
Accumulations removed..... 2
Repairs to water services..... 5

Section 39, Public Heath Act, 1936—

Number of Notices served..... 24

Drainage—

Cleansed, repaired and relaid..... 50
Drains tested..... 83
Cesspools cleansed..... 2

Section 45, Public Health Act, 1936—

Number of Notices served..... 73

Sanitary Conveniences—

General Repairs..... 61
Waterflushing apparatus repaired or renewed.... 15
Watercloset pans renewed..... 26

Infectious Diseases—

Number of cases visited..... 48

Disinfection—

Number of premises disinfected after infectious
disease 42
Number of dirty or verminious premises disinfected 35

FOOD AND DRUGS (MILK & DAIRIES) ACT, 1944

The Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949

The supervision of the retail distribution and sampling of milk for bacteriological examination is undertaken by the Local Authority :—

Number of Distributors in Register.....	13
Number of Dairies in Area.....	11
Number of Visits.....	20

11 samples of pasteurised and sterilised milk were taken from distributors during delivery during the year and sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Cardiff, for bacteriological examination.

All the samples were found to be satisfactory.

MILK (SPECIAL) DESIGNATION

(Pasteurised and Sterilised milk) REGULATIONS, 1949

11 dealers' Licences authorising the use of the Special Designation " Pasteurised " and 11 Licences for the Special Designation " Tuberculin Tested Milk (Pasteurised) " were issued to distributors of milk in this area.

7 dealers' Licences were issued for the use of the Special Designation " Sterilised."

3 Supplementary Licences authorising the use of the Special Designation " Pasteurised," " Tuberculin Tested Milk (Pasteurised) " and " Sterilised " were issued to distributors of milk residing outside the Urban Area.

FOODS CONDEMNED DURING 1959

A total of 1 ton, 2 cwts, 2 st., 8lbs., of foodstuffs was found on examination to be unfit for human consumption, voluntarily surrendered and destroyed :—

	Weight in lbs.
Bacon	8
Cheese	3
Cooked Ham.....	30
Tinned Ham.....	246
Tinned Meat.....	451
Tinned Goods.....	1,706
Fish	35
Cake Mixture.....	11

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Premises where pet animals are sold must be licensed annually by the Local Authority.

No Licences were issued during the year.

RAG FLOCK & OTHER MATERIALS ACT, 1951

One factory in the area is registered as an upholstery premises and was visited periodically to see that the provisions of the above Act were complied with.

CINEMATOGRAPH AND STAGE PLAYS LICENCES

During the year, the seven cinemas and theatres in the area were inspected as regards interior cleanliness, condition of seats, sanitary conveniences and ventilation.

RODENT CONTROL

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

The urban area was surveyed for rodent infestation and infested lands and premises treated as in previous years. Previously Zinc Phosphide and Arsenious Oxide were the poisons used in baits but during this year their use was discontinued, and only Warfarin was used. Warfarin is one of a number of poisons known as “ anticoagulants ” because

their main action on animals is to prevent the blood from clotting. Warfarin does not cause bait or poison shyness, and therefore no prebaiting is done as is necessary with the acute poisons such as Zinc Phosphide and Arsenious Oxide.

The subsidy from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food for rodent control ceased on the 31st March, 1959. However, the policy of free treatment of private dwellings was continued by the Council. Business premises are treated but a charge to cover wages, administration and materials used was made.

Two full-time Rodent Operatives were employed by the Council, under the supervision of the Public Health Inspector, to carry out the surveys of the district and the disinfestation treatment necessary.

A summary of the treatments on surface infestations are as under :—

	Rats.	Mice.
Number of dwelling houses treated.....	458	206
Number of business premises treated.....	10	2
Number of schools and school kitchens treated..	13	2
Number of refuse tips treated.....	11	—
Number of embankments treated.....	21	
Number of watercourses treated.....	4	
Number of sewer beds treated.....	3	
Number of back lanes treated.....	1	
Number of culverts treated.....	11	
Number of sections of river embankments treated	16	
Local Authority premises treated.....	2	
Number of piggeries treated.....	1	
Number of hospitals treated.....		1

SEWER TREATMENTS

The maintenance treatment of the sewerage system in the urban area was pursued during the year. As was the case with the surface infestations the poison used was changed. A prepared Warfarin poison bait was used. The use of this poison necessitated a change in the sequence of baiting the sewer manholes. With the poisons previously used manholes were baited on 3 consecutive days but with Warfarin baiting this was done on the 1st, 4th and 8th days. The rodent operatives during the sewer treatments were assisted

by men from the Engineer and Surveyor's Department.

The river banks, sewage disposal works and refuse tips are immediately treated after the treatment of the sewers. Of course, the river banks, refuse tips and disposal works are surveyed at more frequent intervals and treated as necessary. It is also found necessary to treat sewer manholes when undertaking treatment of surface infestations.

Treatments for the disposal of rats will, unfortunately, be a necessity and continued surveys for infestations and re-infestations in the area obligatory.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1959 FOR THE URBAN
DISTRICT OF MOUNTAIN ASH IN THE COUNTY OF GLAMORGAN

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1937

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspector).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.. .. .	35	14	2	..
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.. .. .	51	23	..	..
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ..	9	..	..	..
TOTAL	95	45	2	..

2.—Cases in which defects were found (If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more “cases”)

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)
Overcrowding (S.2)
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) (a) Insufficient
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	..	..	..
(c) Not separate for sexes
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)
TOTAL ..	2	2	..	..	..

OUTWORK

(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work (1)	SECTION 110			SECTION 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecu- tions (7)
Wearing apparel (Making etc.).....	5	..	..	..	..	..
Cleaning and Washing.....
Household linen.....
Lace, lace curtains and nets.....
Curtains and furniture hangings.....
Furniture and upholstery.....
Electro Plate.....
File making.....
Brass and brass articles.....
Fur pulling.....
Iron and steel cables and chains.....
Iron and Steel anchors and grapnels.....
Cart gear.....
Locks, latches and keys.....
Umbrellas, etc.....
Artificial flowers.....
Nets, other than wire nets.....
Tents
Sacks
Racquet and tennis balls.....
Paper bags.....
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper
Brush making.....
Pea picking.....
Feather sorting.....
Carding, etc., of buttons, etc.....
Stuffed toys.....
Basket making.....
Chocolates and sweetmeats.....
Cosaques, Christmas stockings, etc.....
Textile weaving.....	1	..	..	..	..	..
Lampshades
TOTAL	6	..	..	..	..	..

STEPHENS & GEORGE LTD
PRINTERS
CARDIFF STREET, ABERDARE